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a right thumb key attached to said body and selectively depressable by the user;  
first means responsive to depression of only one of said four left finger keys to type, respectively, four distinct characters that make up a first subset;  
second means responsive to substantially simultaneous depression of said left thumb key and one of said four left finger keys to type, respectively, four distinct characters that make up a second subset;  
third means responsive to substantially simultaneous depression of said right thumb key and one of said four left finger keys to type, respectively, four distinct characters that make up a third subset;  
fourth means responsive to depression of only one of said four right finger keys to type, respectively, four distinct characters that make up a fourth subset;  
fifth means responsive to substantially simultaneous depression of said right thumb key and one of said four right finger keys to type, respectively, four distinct characters that make up a fifth subset;  
sixth means responsive to substantially simultaneous depression of said left thumb key and one of said four right finger keys to type, respectively, four distinct characters that make up a sixth subset;

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seventh means responsive to depression of only said left thumb key to type a distinct character; and,  
eighth means responsive to depression of only said right thumb key to type a distinct character.

35. A method of typing a set of 26 different characters comprising the steps of:

typing a first subset of ten characters using respectively the eight fingers and the thumbs of the left and right hands;

typing a second subset of four characters by using respectively the four fingers of the left hand and with each simultaneously using the thumb of the left hand;

typing a third subset of four characters by using respectively the four fingers of the right hand and with each simultaneously using the thumb of the right hand;

typing a fourth subset of four characters by using respectively the four fingers of the left hand and with each simultaneously using the thumb of the right hand; and

typing a fifth subset of four characters by using respectively the four fingers of the right hand and with each simultaneously using the thumb of the left hand.

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